GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3014
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2000
UNICEF PROJECT FOR WORKING CHILDREN
SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to start a project by the UNICEF to get the working children into schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the States and cities where this project is likely to be launched and the time by which it is likely to be started;

(d) whether this programme is being funded by some NGOs; and

(e) if so, the details in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

(SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN)

(a)&(b) UNICEF is supporting the Government in many projects in the country to reduce Child Labour OpenMinds is one of the projects put together jointly by UNICEF and Corporate sector for the purpose of financing education of children. The main objective of the project is to send 20,000 working children back to school in selected parts of the country.
In ten selected cities, NGOs are being identified toimplement the specific activities. NGOs will be trained byother organisations to carry out specific activities which include:

(a) identify highly prevalent areas of child labour/street children in the identified cities;

(b) enumerate children who are out of school;

(c) support families by identifying alternate means of employment and income generation;

(d) carry out capsule modules for helping children get non- formal education prior to enrolling them into primary schools in the areas;

(e) support children with means such as books, notebooks and uniforms;

(f) provide ongoing motivation, mobilisation and monitoring to ensure that these children stay in schools.

(c),(d)&(e) The corporate sector will provide UNICEF with fulfinancial support for implementing the project through identified non-governmental organisations in the following cities: Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Bhopal, Calcutta, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Lucknow and Mumbai. The corporate sector interested in funding the project will organise its own fund raising campaigns each year. UNICEF has informed thata sum of Rs. One crore has been raised and handed over to UNICEF in February this year which will be used by UNICEF aspart of its supplementary funding programme within the framework of the Government of India-UNICEF Programme of Co- operation for funding the aforesaid NGOs.